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EXAMINER

RAO, MANJUNATH N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1652

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/993,241

Applicant(s)

KAKKIS, EMIL D.

Examiner

Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 April 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-57 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-13 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-57 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 October 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 46711 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-57 are currently pending and are present for examination. Claims 14-57 are now under consideration. Claims 1-13 remain withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected invention.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of group II, claims 14-57 in Paper No. 14 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Priority

Applicant's claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120/121 is acknowledged.

Drawings

Drawings submitted in this application are accepted by the Examiner for examination purposes only.

Claim Objections

Claim 14 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 14 depends from a non-elected claim. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Examiner has considered the subject matter of claim 3 in the context of claim 14. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 14 and claims 15-28 depending therefrom are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 14 recites the phrases "primary efficacy endpoints", secondary efficacy endpoints" and "tertiary efficacy endpoints" and "safety endpoints". The metes and bounds of the above phrases are not clear to the Examiner. It is suggested that applicants provide briefly points as to what is considered as the above endpoints by amending the claim as "wherein primary efficacy endpoints are" and so on so forth.

Claim 14 and claims 15-28 depending therefrom are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 14 recites the phrase "treating diseases caused". It is not clear to the Examiner whether the treatment is aimed specifically towards humans or all animals. As it appears that applicants have mainly contemplated on human subjects in their specification, amending the claim to recite "treating diseases in humans caused all...." would overcome this rejection.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 15 recites the phrases "percent predicted forced vital capacity" and "six

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minute walk distance". Here again the metes and bounds of the above phrases are not clear to the Examiner. It is suggested that applicants amend the claim as to what is percent forced vital capacity and what value (units) are considered. The same applies to the six minute walk distance.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 16 recites the phrase "liver organ volume", "disability score index". Here again the metes and bounds of the above phrases are not clear to the Examiner. It is suggested that applicants provide a numerical value for these parameters.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 16 recites the phrases such as "urinary glycosaminoglycan levels", "quality of life" etc. Here again the metes and bounds of the above phrases are not clear to the Examiner. It is suggested that applicants provide a numerical value for these parameters.

Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 26 recites the phrase "reduces lysosomal storage". The metes and bounds of the above phrase are not clear to the Examiner specifically the term "reduces". It is suggested that applicants provide a numerical value for this parameter in order to render it definite.

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Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 27 recites the phrase "causes improvement". The metes and bounds of the above phrase are not clear to the Examiner specifically the term "improvement". It is suggested that applicants provide a numerical value for this parameter in order to render it definite.

Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 28 recites the several phrases with terms such as "increase" and "reduction". The above two terms are "open" language. The metes and bounds of the above terms are not clear to the Examiner. It is suggested that applicants provide a numerical value for this parameter in order to render it definite.

Claim 29 and claims 30-38 depending therefrom are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 29 recites the phrase "treating diseases caused". It is not clear to the Examiner whether the treatment is aimed specifically towards humans or all animals. As it appears that applicants have mainly contemplated on human subjects in their specification, amending the claim to recite "treating diseases in humans caused all...." would overcome this rejection.

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Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 34 recites the limitation "to a patient suffering from a deficiency thereof" in lines 2-3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 36 recites the limitation "said infusion" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 37 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 37 recites the phrase "reduces lysosomal storage". The metes and bounds of the above phrase is not clear to the Examiner.

Claim 38 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 38 recites the several phrases with terms such as "increase" and "reduction". The above two terms are "open" language. The metes and bounds of the above terms are not clear to the Examiner. It is suggested that applicants provide a numerical value for this parameter in order to render it definite.

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Claim 47 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 47 recites the limitation "human recombinant α -L-iduronidase" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 47 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 47 recites the phrase "reduces lysosomal storage". The metes and bounds of the above phrase is not clear to the Examiner.

Claim 54 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 54 recites the phrase "increase of the shoulder flexion". The metes and bounds of the above phrase is not clear to the Examiner.

Claim 55 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 55 recites the phrase "increase of the elbow". The metes and bounds of the above phrase is not clear to the Examiner.

Claim 56 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as

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the invention. Claim 56 recites the phrase "reduction of apnea". The metes and bounds of the above phrase is not clear to the Examiner.

Claim 57 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 57 recites the phrase "reduction in said tricuspid regurgitation". The metes and bounds of the above phrase is not clear to the Examiner.

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 14-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a method of treatment using a greater than 99% pure, recombinant α -L-iduronidase enzyme with SEQ ID NO:2, does not reasonably provide enablement for such a method using fragments or muteins of the same. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

Factors to be considered in determining whether undue experimentation is required, are summarized in *In re Wands* (858 F.2d 731, 8 USPQ 2d 1400 (Fed. Cir. 1988)) as follows: (1) the quantity of experimentation necessary, (2) the amount of direction or guidance presented, (3) the presence or absence of working examples, (4) the nature of the invention, (5) the state of the

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prior art, (6) the relative skill of those in the art, (7) the predictability or unpredictability of the art, and (8) the breadth of the claim(s).

Claims 14-57 are so broad as to encompass fragments and muteins of recombinant α -L-iduronidase. The scope of the claims is not commensurate with the enablement provided by the disclosure with regard to the extremely large number of fragments and muteins broadly encompassed by the claims. Since the amino acid sequence of a protein determines its structural and functional properties, predictability of which changes can be tolerated in a protein's amino acid sequence and obtain the desired activity requires a knowledge of and guidance with regard to which amino acids in the protein's sequence, if any, are tolerant of modification and which are conserved (i.e. expectedly intolerant to modification), and detailed knowledge of the ways in which the proteins' structure relates to its function. However, in this case the disclosure is limited to the nucleotide and encoded amino acid sequence of only a single enzyme. It would require undue experimentation of the skilled artisan to make and use the claimed polypeptides as claimed. The specification is limited to teaching use of SEQ ID NO: 2 as the α -L-iduronidase but provides no guidance with regard to the making of fragments or muteins. In view of the great breadth of the claim, amount of experimentation required to make the claimed polypeptides, the lack of guidance, working examples, and unpredictability of the art in predicting function from a polypeptide primary structure (e.g., see Ngo et al. in *The Protein Folding Problem and Tertiary Structure Prediction*, 1994, Merz et al. (ed.), Birkhauser, Boston, MA, pp. 433 and 492-495, Ref: U, Form-892), the claimed invention would require undue experimentation. As such, the specification fails to teach one of ordinary skill how to use the full scope of the polypeptides encompassed by this claim.

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While recombinant and mutagenesis techniques are known, it is not routine in the art to screen for multiple substitutions or multiple modifications, as encompassed by the instant claims, and the positions within a protein's sequence where amino acid modifications can be made with a reasonable expectation of success in obtaining the desired activity/utility are limited in any protein and the result of such modifications is unpredictable. In addition, one skilled in the art would expect any tolerance to modification for a given protein to diminish with each further and additional modification, e.g. multiple substitutions.

The specification does not support the broad scope of the claims which encompass all fragments and muteins of the enzymes with SEQ ID NOS:2 because the specification does not establish: (A) regions of the protein structure which may be modified without effecting activity; (B) the general tolerance of iduronidase to modification and extent of such tolerance; (C) a rational and predictable scheme for modifying any amino acid residue in SEQ ID NO:2 with an expectation of obtaining the desired biological function; and (D) the specification provides insufficient guidance as to which of the essentially infinite possible choices is likely to be successful.

Thus, applicants have not provided sufficient guidance to enable one of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the claimed invention in a manner reasonably correlated with the scope of the claims broadly including fragments and muteins with an enormous number of amino acid modifications of the of SEQ ID NO:2. The scope of the claims must bear a reasonable correlation with the scope of enablement (*In re Fisher*, 166 USPQ 19 24 (CCPA 1970)). Without sufficient guidance, determination of fragments and muteins having the desired biological characteristics is unpredictable and the experimentation left to those skilled in the art is

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unnecessarily, and improperly, extensive and undue. See *In re Wands* 858 F.2d 731, 8 USPQ2d 1400 (Fed. Cir, 1988).

Claims 14-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 14-38 are directed to a method of treating using muteins and polypeptide fragments corresponding to portions of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2. Claims 14-57 are rejected under this section of 35 USC 112 because the claims are directed to a genus of polypeptides derived from SEQ ID NO:2 including muteins and fragments of SEQ ID NO:2 that have not been disclosed in the specification. No description has been provided of the modified polypeptide sequences encompassed by the claim. No information, beyond the characterization of SEQ ID NO:2 has been provided by applicants which would indicate that they had possession of the claimed genus of modified polypeptides. The specification does not contain any disclosure of the structure of all the polypeptide sequences derived from SEQ ID NO:2, including fragments and variants within the scope of the claimed genus. The genus of polypeptides claimed is a large variable genus including peptides which can have a wide variety of structure and function. Therefore many structurally unrelated polypeptides are encompassed within the scope of these claims. The specification discloses only a single species of the claimed genus which is insufficient to put one of skill in the art in possession of the attributes and features of all species within the claimed genus. Therefore, one skilled in the art cannot

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reasonably conclude that applicant had possession of the claimed invention at the time the instant application was filed.

Applicant is referred to the revised guidelines concerning compliance with the written description requirement of U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, published in the Official Gazette and also available at www.uspto.gov.

Claims 39-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 39-57 are directed to a method of treating using >99% pure human recombinant α -L-iduronidase. Claims 39-57 are rejected under this section of 35 USC 112 because the claims are directed to a genus of polypeptides that have not been described in the specification. No description has been provided of the polypeptide sequences encompassed by the claim. No information, beyond the characterization of SEQ ID NO:2 has been provided by applicants which would indicate that they had possession of all the claimed genus of polypeptides. The specification does not contain any disclosure of the structure of all the polypeptide sequences within the scope of the claimed genus. The genus of polypeptides claimed is a large variable genus including peptides which can have a wide variety of structure. Therefore many structurally unrelated polypeptides are encompassed within the scope of these claims. The specification discloses only a single species of the claimed genus which is insufficient to put one of skill in the art in possession of the attributes and features of all species within the claimed

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genus. Therefore, one skilled in the art cannot reasonably conclude that applicant had possession of the claimed invention at the time the instant application was filed.

Applicant is referred to the revised guidelines concerning compliance with the written description requirement of U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, published in the Official Gazette and also available at www.uspto.gov.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 14-57 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-30 of U.S. Patent No. 6585971. An obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but an examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim, because the examined claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over the reference claim. See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi* 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985). Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not

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patentably distinct from each other. Claims 14-57 of the instant application and claims 1-30 of the reference patent are both directed to a method of treating using recombinant α -L-iduronidase (having an amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2). Among all the different fragments and muteins and purified enzyme claimed in the instant application a good number of the enzymes are identical to one another (i.e., the enzyme in the issued patent encompasses fragments and purified enzyme claimed in the instant claims). The portion of the specification (and the claims) in the reference patent that supports the recited amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2, includes several embodiments (fragments, purified enzyme) that would anticipate the fragments and purified enzyme claimed in claims 14-57. Claims of the instant application listed above cannot be considered patentably distinct over claims 1-30 of the reference patent when there is specifically recited embodiment that would anticipate mainly claims 1-30 of the instant application. Alternatively, claims 14-38 cannot be considered patentably distinct over claims 1-30 of the reference patent when there is specifically disclosed embodiment in the reference patent that supports claims 1-30 of that patent and falls within the scope of claims 14-38 herein because it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify claims 1-30 of the reference by selecting a specifically disclosed embodiment that supports those claims i.e., muteins of recombinant α -L-iduronidase with SEQ ID NO:2. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because that embodiment is disclosed as being a preferred embodiment within claims 1-30 of the reference patent.

Conclusion

None of the claims are allowable.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 703-306-5681. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ponnathapura Achutamurthy can be reached on 703-308-3804. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-4242 for regular communications and 703-308-4242 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0196.


MANJUNATH N. RAO
PATENT EXAMINER

Manjunath N. Rao

June 21, 2003